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OUTSIDE THE SYSTEM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Executive Registry 80-6949

SECRET

April 12, 1980

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NSC REVIEW COMPLETED

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT:

Iranian Study (C)

You will recall that Defense and CIA played key roles last December and January in an interagency working group that collected and summarized key documents in each major area of U.S.-Iranian relations since 1941. In addition, the working group prepared both a short overview of the U.S.-Iranian relationship and a longer, highly classified survey of the broad outlines of our relations with Iran, with emphasis on certain of the more sensitive aspects. (S)

As the second phase of this project, we now have to ensure that the summaries and papers prepared last winter and the inventory of key documents are as complete as possible. Together, all of this material should provide us with the information we will need in responding to inquiries, preparing speeches in defense of U.S. actions, or presenting our case to the Congress through testimony. (S)

State has asked Phil Stoddard, an INR officer currently assigned to the Council on Foreign Relations who helped prepare the material we have on hand, to work with the NSC staff to:

- -- make sure that the inventory of important documents is completed;
- -- review the classified summaries we have developed to sanitize them for use in testimony and Q's and A's and to develop language we could use in dealing with sensitive issues, either in testimony or in cooperating with an SFRC inquiry. (S)

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This project will require substantial additional input from both Defense and CIA in particularly sensitive areas on a time-urgent basis. I would like each of you to designate a responsible, knowledgeable officer to work closely with the NSC staff and Phil Stoddard over the next few weeks. This officer should have full authority to task appropriate offices in your respective agencies as required to meet the two objectives outlined above. (S)

Please submit the names of these officers to me by COB Tuesday, April 15. Phil Stoddard has prepared a list of issues concerning relations with Iran on which the U.S. is potentially vulnerable. He will want to begin working with your designated representatives on these and related issues early next week. (C)

Zbigniew Brzezinski

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